

**The Brethren Evangelist**

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THE BRETHREN PUB. HOUSE,  
ASHLAND, Ashland Co., OHIO

ASHLAND, O., April 6, 1887.

**Three Months More.**

An examination of the trail of time shows that another three months has passed away, with its hopes and despairs, and joys and sorrows, successes and failures. But the past is past, and we can change nothing that belongs to it. The subject that should now engage attention is the future, if there are no lessons to learn from the mistakes and successes of the past.

To the brethren and the Brethren church the coming quarter of a year should be made one of great importance. We should engage in much earnest prayer for the success of Zion's work, for wisdom to guide us in the meditations that should be engaged in, about work to be done in the future, and making plans that may be carried into effect to the honor and glory of God.

To the Brethren in Ohio let it be said, that our Lord's Day School Convention is to be held about the first of June. This should be made the most successful convention yet held in Ohio. The Sunday School is of the greatest importance as a part of the work of the church, and as much enthusiasm should be shown for the work as for any other part of the Master's cause. It is not too early now to commence to prepare for this important convention.

Also the Home Mission Work will come up for consideration at this meeting, and the brethren should have some well matured thoughts and plans to present, that arrangements can be made to do the most work at the least expense.

In September the National Convention of the Brethren church is expected to convene. This is a meeting of still more importance, and one that demands charity, wisdom, prudence, talent and the use of all the virtues that are at the command of brethren.

It is now time to commence to prepare for this convention. There are many who should give this matter some thought, and this should be done before the busy work of harvest comes on. It is only the small minority of our leading brethren who have plenty of leisure time in this season of the year, and this convention needs the best thought and plans, not of a few only, but all.

Four months seem like a good while, but when we are very busy they soon pass, and before we fully recognize the fact, that much time is gone. So not a week should be allowed to pass

before taking up the consideration of the needs of the church and the work that the convention should do, and should not do. The date was fixed months ahead so that there would be plenty of time to get ready, and now who will be ready?

Another matter that still needs attention is the College. The subscriptions that have been gathered are coming in slowly, and the interest on the indebtedness is rapidly accumulating. It costs six or eight dollars a day to carry the debt that is resting upon the College and the sooner it is stopped, the better it will be.

It should be remembered that this interest is not provided for, and for this reason there should be a united effort to stop its accumulation as soon as possible. Every member of the Brethren church is scripturally bound to share this burden. The conventions of the Brethren church accepted it as a church institution, and the scriptures say that we should bear one another's burdens and have charity. This College does not belong to one member of the Brethren church more than another, so all are under obligations. In the next three months there should be something done toward cancelling this debt. This is a church work, and to every member belongs the authority to do as much as he can to do it.

The general work of the church also needs attention. During April and May is an excellent time to hold revival meetings in some churches. In the winter the roads were so muddy in places that it was next to impossible to do a work of this kind. In cities and towns this season of the year is a very favorable time, and where it can be improved it should be done.

There is plenty of work to do along the line, and we should thank the good Lord for the success of the past winter, take courage and press onward with new energies to accomplish more in the future than we have in the past.

**Safe With Power.**

The Apostle Paul admonishes the brethren, in his epistle to the Romans, to put on the Lord Jesus Christ. This is an admonition that contains much, but our purpose is only to consider one line of thought that it covers.

When Jesus Christ was about to leave the earth when he appeared to the disciples after his resurrection, he declared that all power had been given to him both in heaven and in earth; that he had become the sole ruler of the universe, by virtue of the authority that the Father had placed under his control. No one now disputes that such is the truth who believe in the Scriptures. But before he made this declaration, he declared that he could pray to the Father and the prayer would be answered by the appearance of legions of angels.

These truths teach us that Christ was a being able to wield great power while he was in the flesh and that afterwards this power was increased until he became all-powerful. Yet at the same time Christ did not exercise this power that he possessed. Although by a simple wave of the hand he could have blotted out the Jewish nation forever, or turned all of its inhabitants into creatures as helpless as infants,

he did not do so. He was safe with power.

Now the apostle admonishes the followers of the Lord, to put on the Lord Jesus Christ. This means that we should imitate the character of Christ; and in doing this, every Elder and Bishop in the church should be kind. All past history, however, shows that the professors of Christianity have not done so. This is one quality of character that few Christian leaders possess in the degree that they should. Men who are followers of Jesus should be charitable enough to be safely intrusted with power.

The ambassador of Christ should never use any power. Where he is an executor of the gospel law, he should do only what the gospel commands him, and stop at that point. Any man who goes farther than this in enforcing discipline, goes farther than Christ did, and farther than he has gospel authority to go, and he becomes a transgressor and a self-constituted tribunal and an executor of vengeance.

Let God's servant beware that he does not live with that spirit in his heart which would be cruel and tyrannical if he should be given power as Christ was.

**Another Trouble.**

This sister asks a question that we do not know how to answer.

Dear Brother:—I am very much pleased with the paper with the exception of some little things which strangers do not understand. It is this uniting with the church by relation, or a member coming from the G. B. church. We know what G. B. means, but every body is not aware of the trouble that has been in the church, and people think that we take members by birthright.

Please excuse, I mean no offence.

S. S.

Germantown, Pa.

Brethren, when writings should always spell out G. B. and make it German Baptist. We have tried to have the compositors spell it out, but it comes so often that we have about given up the task of teaching them the habit of making the addition. We would not have people believe that we receive children into membership who have parents who are members of the Brethren church, without baptism. Can some brother invent a term to express the idea so that such impressions will not be made, as our sister mentions?

**EDITORIAL ITEMS.**

Rosa Whitmer sends us one dollar to pay for the EVANGELIST for some poor member. She will accept our thanks.

Franklin Smith writes that he believes that the vicinity of Wolfe Lake, Ind., would be a good field for the Brethren.

Arrangements are being made to hold a series of meetings at Bracken, Ind., so brother R. K. Binkley writes.

Bro. S. B. Reist advises us to leave the discussion of distinctions and turn our attention to raising money to carry on the work of the church. It is good advice, and we wish that we all would remember the good work more generously than is being done. But there are so many who want to make friends of the Mammon of unrighteousness, who is always sure to desert at the time of death. While we need to be more generous, the Scriptures demand it, and the conscience declares we should be, yet the old sound is still

ringing, the gospel is free; come take without money and without price. The gospel is free indeed, but few people would know much about it if every church was as penurious as our Tunker fathers have been.

Bro. J. B. Yoder, of Canaan, Ohio, visited Ashland last week, and gave us a call. His daughter is now a student at the College.

There is an opening at Cerro Gordo, Ill., for some work to be done in the Brethren cause. How near that place are the resident ministers of Illinois?

A brother in Ind. tried to do without the paper, but after a few issues he ordered it again, as he was lost without it. Such is the case if a brother has any spiritual life in him. When a brother stops his paper when he is able to take it and is at home to read it, we generally conclude that he is spiritually sleeping, or dead.

QUESTION.—Does the Brethren church think it wrong for sisters to pray or speak in prayer or social meetings with their heads uncovered? No.

Bro. D. White has at last fully grasped the complete idea that was at issue in the discussion between us and several of the brethren. We could not understand them, and probably they did not understand us. We did not think of such an expression as forced tendency or liberality; yet there is a great deal of it in popular Christianity.

Elder S. C. Stump made an excursion to Weeping Water, Nebraska, last week to preach the gospel at that place.

Elder John Nicholson did a good work at Holmesville, Nebraska, by organizing a church and adding to the fold. From Holmesville he has gone to Norton, Kansas, to assist in the good work begun there by Bro. M. Lichty and others.

Elder E. L. Yoder was preaching and baptizing at Caleten, Nebraska when last heard from.

The brethren at Louisville, Ohio, are in good hopes and moving along orderly. They are awaiting an opportunity to engage an evangelist to hold a protracted meeting.

The brethren of Nickerson church, will hold a love feast on Saturday evening, April 16th, near Nickerson, Kans. A general invitation is extended to all brethren to attend. Those coming by rail will notify S. F. Lehman, at Nickerson, who will meet any one at the depot.

Bro. W. J. H. Bauman's family has moved from Morrill to South Haven, Kansas. Bro. B. seems to be much encouraged at the present time. May success attend his work at South Haven.

Bro. P. J. Brown and Mason came up from the Miami Valley the first of the week, and it looks now as though the Valley was to have a rest for a while. They organized a church at Little York, near Dayton, last week. This makes one more Brethren fort in that field. The Valley is sure to become a Brethren stronghold.

**A Word of Admonition.**

We have not forgotten the duty we owe to God for the tender mercies he has bestowed upon us. We should be more thankful for his great goodness than we are. We are tempted on every hand, but if we only trust in God, praying him to aid and assist us in our shortcomings in this life, we may gain a home in heaven, where trials and temptations never come; where we can sing praise to God forever more. As we journey on, let us be careful what we do and say. When we go to church let us go with the intention of learning a lesson from God's word; not to see and be seen. Christ says, we shall come unto him and learn of him. Then it is our duty, as Christians, to obey the gospel, not to follow the dictates of our consciences. Trust in God's word for our soul's salvation.

O. H. CROUSE.

Cambria, Ind.

**Homer, Ohio.**

Taking all things into consideration, our prospects here are encouraging. True we did not have a great ingathering into the church here this winter, although we had a two weeks' protracted meeting, during which the church was very much revived. As an immediate result we received one aged brother by letter from the Evangelical Association having formerly belonged to the German Baptists. Numerically we held our own, having lost one and gained one. Our preaching service is well attended, and seems to be enjoyed by the congregation. We preach here every two weeks at our meeting house and every once in awhile at some out posts on the skirmish line north of us. We missed one appointment this winter on account of bad roads. This will answer Lula Wood's question in last week's EVANGELIST.

The interest in our Thursday evening prayer meetings remains unabated. Our prayer meeting seems to be the life of this church. Oh, how we enjoy them. How we wish all our brethren and sisters could attend such meetings and take a public part. There certainly would be no backsliding. Last Sunday we reorganized Sunday School here. Had a very good attendance and splendid interest, and the result was generally very satisfactory. Bro. Oliver Hummel was chosen Superintendent, Bro. Samuel Barone Ass't., Bro. A. O. Jacobs Sec., Michael Keyser Treas., Miss Jessie Barone Organist, Mr. E. Krebs Chorister, and Bro. W. S. Hart Librarian. The school was divided into nine classes and supplied with a corps of competent teachers, and we anticipate a lively Sunday School this summer. Our prospects for the future are certainly bright. We love to hear of the success of our cause everywhere. God bless the church.

H. S. JACOBS.

March 31, 1887.

**From Dayton, Ohio.**

The meetings held for two weeks by our brother R. F. Mallott closed with a communion Wednesday evening March 30th. The services were very interesting and the church certainly feels very much revived. Numerically we are one stronger, spiritually, we hope we are on as high a plain as it is possible for mortals to attain. Praise the Lord for his goodness in that he has once more permitted us to enjoy so rich a feast. Many thanks to all who participated in the good work. The only trace of sadness was the absence of some of our members on account of sickness; one among that number was Libbie, my beloved wife. The Lord comfort and restore the sick and give grace to help in every time of need.

S. KIEHL.

164 McClure St., Dayton, O.

**The Annual.**

The Brethren Annual is distinctly a church document this year. It contains 40 pages, and will be mailed to any address at the following prices:

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There can not be a more worthy improvement of friendship than in a fervent opposition to the sins of those whom we profess to love.—Bishop J. Hall.